

Citizens Committee on U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement



Mission:

1. Encourage citizens to be a part of the solution
2. Encourage City staff and citizens to conserve current resources
3. Work with the City Council to implement ideas
4. Effectively address the future impacts of climate change

Committee Members:

Citizens: Steve Bernheim, Carolyn Chapel, Wes Gallagher, Wayne Grotheer, Hank Landau, Ben Hines
City Staff: Mayor Gary Haakenson, Steve Fisher, Sally Lider, Noel Miller, Linda Carl

Meeting Agenda

May 3, 2007

1. Staff GHG Committee report	Steve F.
2. Recap of Climate Solutions presentation at EdCC	Carolyn
3. Proposed business assistance program	Hank
4. Miscellaneous	All

Meeting Notes

April 5, 2007

Present: Carolyn Chapel, Wes Gallagher, Hank Landau, Mayor Gary Haakenson, Steve Fisher, Sally Lider, Noel Miller, Linda Carl
Absent: Steve Bernheim, Wayne Grotheer, Ben Hines
Also attending: David Kaufer, Adriane Martinez

1. Mayor's report on the City Council retreat

The Mayor presented the Council with information on the effects of climate change around the world, as well as an article on "green" building codes. The Council requested additional information on plug-in cars. After the GHG staff committee obtains its data, Gary intends to form a committee to address green building codes. Both Hank and Carolyn expressed interest in being on this committee.

2. Staff GHG Committee update/ICLEI baseline

Steve F. has started inputting the data that City staff is gathering. He hopes to have a detailed report ready to present to this committee at the next meeting.

Linda will provide the committee with email updates that ICLEI sends to us, as well as the ICLEI website (iclei.org). Gary will invite a school district representative to attend our May meeting, and he will confirm if school districts can be ICLEI members. "The Low-Carbon Diet" book that Ben shared with us at the last meeting is on order at the Edmonds Bookshop.

3. Earth Day and National Day of Climate Action

April 22 is Earth Day. Sally indicated that several events are planned, including a spring beach cleanup on Saturday, April 21. On the following Saturday is a twilight walk in Yost Park. Step it Up National Day of Climate Action is Saturday, April 14 and is a national campaign to increase public awareness of climate issues. There are many area events listed on the stepitup2007.org

website. Gary will do a proclamation that encompasses both days under “Earth Week in Edmonds.”

Miscellaneous

Adriane Martinez and David Kaufer attended the meeting after reading about the committee in the local paper. Adriane works for the Snohomish Health District and also sits on a committee that advocates for low-income seniors. David is the founder of “Green for Good,” a website that serves as an online resource for people interested in sustainability.

Sally reminded everyone that the Puget Sound Bird Fest will be May 18 and 19. “Birds in a Changing Climate” is the theme. There will be a “marketplace” set up in the Plaza Room above the Edmonds Library with bird and nature-related items. Sally will set up a climate protection booth. If you’re interested in volunteering at this booth, please contact Sally at 425.771.0227 or lider@ci.edmonds.wa.us. She also indicated that two pairs of great blue herons are building their nests in the Edmonds marsh. She will keep an eye on them to see if they stay.

Hank suggested the book “The Beak of the Finch” for more information on birds and climate change. He also mentioned the idea of forming a group that could volunteer to assist local businesses that want to get “green.” He suggested starting with a questionnaire and a packet of information to provide to the businesses, then meet with the owners personally to do an “audit” of the business. Perhaps we could have decals that a business owner can put on his or her shop window. Gary asked that Hank contact the Chamber of Commerce regarding a possible link to their “Everything Edmonds” site, as well as researching what King County is doing in this area.

Gary indicated that the Pagliacci’s pizza boxes have an extensive list of green ideas. Steve F. mentioned that Allied Waste has now included food scraps in their yard waste bins. Information will go to Allied customers soon.

Hank indicated that the Supreme Court has ruled that the EPA has power over greenhouse gas issues. Seattle Mayor Nickels has announced an increase in the use of bike lanes. Edmonds’ bike club is working with the City on bike lanes, parking, etc.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 3 at 9 a.m.